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GARCIA MEZA, OTHER JUNTA MEMBERS PROMOTED

PY211924 Paris AFP in Spanish 1732 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] La Paz, 21 Aug (AFP)--It was reported here today that Bolivian President Gen Luis Garcia Meza has been promoted from brigadier to major general through a decree signed by the three commanders of the armed forces (air, naval and army).

Air Force Commander Waldo Bernal Pereira has been promoted to major general, and Navy Commander Ramiro Terrazas has been promoted to vice admiral.

A decree signed by Garcia Meza, Bernal and Ramiro Terrazas reveals that remaining promotions and appointments will be notified by means of memoranda to be delivered to the person concerned in order to prevent the enemies of the fatherland from learning the details of the armed forces' internal organization. However, it was learned that the officers posted on the borders will be assigned to the main cities and that they will be replaced by the officers from the cities.

BRAZILIAN PAPER REPORTS BANZER MAY REPLACE GARCIA MEZA

PY220003 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Aug 80 p 11

[By Hugo Martinez]

[Text] Buenos Aires--Argentine Government sources have disclosed that former Bolivian President Hugo Banzer held a meeting with Argentine President Videla before departing for Sao Paulo last week.

According to these sources, General Banzer went to the Olivos presidential residence, located on the outskirts of Beunos Aires, where he lunched with Gen Jorge Videla. During the meeting they evaluated the Bolivian situation, which they described as "delicate."

Banzer reportedly expressed his concern over General Garcia Meza's irritable personality and stated his opposition to the violent methods that the present Bolivian president is using. He reportedly added that Garcia Meza's methods are sometimes completely "unnecessary and even self-defeating." Banzer also reportedly criticized the way in which Garcia Meza handles relations with the Catholic Church.

General Videla, who has expressed his sympathy with Garcia Meza's regime, is able to maintain an open dialogue with General Banzer because he is his personal friend. The former Bolivian president studied at the Argentine military school, and he is the classmate of several Argentine generals who are younger than President Videla.

Moreover, Banzer reportedly stated that despite Garcia Meza's difficult position "it is necessary to support him in his administration, since otherwise a civil war would break out which would have to be confronted by a divided army."

A few hours after the luncheon, General Banzer and his entourage left by airplane for Sao Paulo, where he avoided contact with the press.

According to a diplomatic source, General Banzer said that the region's international policy experts had suggested that a careful replacement operation be planned in Bolivia. This policy would keep General Banzer far away from the center of Bolivian problems and, therefore, neither the disruption of Bolivian union organizations, the closure of universities, nor the conflict with the church will harm him.

Banzer was advised to come to Brazil and explain the Bolivian situation to top-level Brazilian officials. Furthermore, he was told to be prepared for an eventual operation that will reportedly replace General Garcia Meza with General Banzer, who will reportedly be installed in power by a group of supporters of the constitution.

The replacement will reportedly take place after the so-called dirty work that Garcia Meza is carrying out is over. This phase will coincide with the end of General Videla's term in the presidency. Since during his government Banzer tried to adopt democratic solutions, he did not have any conflicts with the church and, moreover, he was able to maintain U.S.-Bolivian relations at an accpetable level. Banzer, therefore, is reportedly the proper person to lead the second phase of the Bolivian coup.

This plan was reportedly discussed during the meeting that President Videla held yesterday afternoon in Brasilia with General Figueiredo. This, moreover, would explain why the Argentine foreign minister believes that the Bolivian situation is delicate and why he was annoyed when questions on this issue were raised.

The "replacement operation" may take place around the month of November.

EL DIARIO DENIES BEING GOVERNMENT MOUTHPIECE

FY220152 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 17 Aug 80 p 1

[Text] There were changes of government in several countries before U.S. President Carter decided to instigate the emergence of Marxist regimes in Latin America. In international press commentaries all of them were considered to be deplorable political events that were confined within the borders of each country.

The government that emerged on 17 July has been looked upon with a different view. It is the government that has caused the most rage in the U.S. and USSR Governments. The agreement of their viewpoints regarding Bolivia merits an extensive analysis in order to discover the real reasons for that rage.

"Journalists" have undertaken with a special determination to release information regarding our country, and they have not only demonstrated their partiality but also their determination to distort reality. And there are agencies that close ranks for the dissemination of exaggeration and lies and the distortion of events.

Some sources in Europe have stated that EL DIARIO is the official mouthpiece of the government of the military junta. Absolutely false. EL DIARIO has been and will be fully independent. It has been accused by the leftists of being pro-Yankee imperialist. And now? We do not need to rectify such an irresponsible statement.

Undoubtedly EL DIARIO is a newspaper that supports Bolivia's cause, the laws of the legal framework and order. It has never and will never support the agents of extremism, and it has always fought them head on.

It was the victim of governments such as those of Ovando and Torres that represented extremism, morally and materially taking over the institutions. But noble causes always impose themselves.

We have not changed our position. It is EL DIARIO of Bolivia for the Bolivians, and nobody and nothing will change this.

MILITARY REPORTEDLY MAIMS LABOR LEADER REYES

PY202207 Paris AFP in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Aug 80

[Text] Paris, 20 Aug (AFP)--According to information that has been received from La Paz, Bolivian labor leader Simon Reyes, who has been in detention since the 17 July coup, "has lost an eye and is semiparalyzed due to torture."

After making this charge, the French chapter of the Bolivian National Committee for the Defense of Democracy (CONADE) urged all French political, labor, humanitarian and religious organizations and parliamentarians to intervene in order to save the life and gain the release of the leader of the miners union.

CONADE indicates that according to information from La Paz, Simon Reyes was arrested at the headquarters of the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) on the day of the coup and is currently suffering from very serious internal and external injuries.

Reyes is being held in utmost secrecy in a cell of the department of political order of the military junta in very precarious and unhealthy conditions, the CONADE communique adds. According to this organization, the military junta--and especially the interior minister, Col Luis Arce Gomez--is responsible for the physical state of Reyes.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL DENOUNCES ATTACK ON MINING TOWN

PY212159 Paris AFP in Spanish 1247 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] London, 21 Aug (AFP)--The humanitarian organization Amnesty International today denounced the disappearance of 900 inhabitants of a mining locality after a violent attack by the armed forces. The soldiers committed murder, rapes and kidnappings during their attack on 4 August against Caracoles, 266 kilometers southeast of La Paz, Amnesty International asserts, quoting eyewitnesses of the attack.

According to reports received by the organization, the Max Toledo Regiment bombarded the locality using artillery, planes and armored vehicles. The inhabitants were shot down as they escaped, and beheaded bodies were loaded onto trucks.

Amnesty International adds that in the very center of this mining locality, which is known for its opposition to the new regime, one miner was killed by the explosion of a load of gunpowder that had been placed in his mouth.

EPISCOPAL COUNCIL SUPPORTS LA PAZ ARCHBISHOP

PY212202 Paris AFP in Spanish 1742 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Excerpt] La Paz, 21 Aug (AFP)--The permanent episcopal council released here today a strong pronouncement of support for the archbishop of La Paz, Msgr Jorge Manrique, due to the repeated government attacks against the prelate. A few days ago the interior minister, Col Luis Arce Gomez, maintained that Manrique has not been arrested due to his age, but that there is a limit to everything.

The document of the episcopate asserts: In view of the frequent and baseless attacks against Manrique, we reiterate our [words indistinct] of La Paz and at the same time protest the ignoble campaign that has been unleashed against such a worthy and fervent pastor.

ITALIAN CITIZENS EXPELLED AFTER 27 DAYS IN PRISON

PY211610 Paris AFP in Spanish 2245 GMT 20 Aug 80

[Excerpt] Lima, 20 Aug (AFP)--Two civil servants of the Italian Government arrived here today on their way to Rome after being imprisoned for 27 days by the rightist government of Gen Luis Garcia Meza in Bolivia.

Primo Silvestre, a sociology professor at the San Andres University, and Alfonso Cazotto, a newspaper specialist working under contract for the La Paz Catholic newspaper PRESENCIA, said that three priests--two Spaniards and one Italian--continue under arrest in the El Alto neighborhood prison where they were kept during their imprisonment. The names of these priests were not revealed.

FINANCE MINISTRY TO RENEGOTIATE FOREIGN DEBT

PY211359 Paris AFP in Spanish 2355 GMT 20 Aug 80

[Text] La Paz, 20 Aug (AFP)--It was officially announced here today that a mission of the Bolivian Finance Ministry will soon travel to New York in order to negotiate deferred payment of the debt which the country has with international bankers, $160 million of which must be paid in the course of 1980.

Finance Minister Gen Jose Sanchez Calderon disclosed this information and indicated that this operation does not imply renegotiation of the foreign debt, since negotiations in this regard will be carried out later. Bolivia's contracted foreign debt amounts to $3.5 billion, while overall yearly exports amount to only $0.9 billion.

In one of his first speeches to the nation, President Luis Garcia Meza indicated that the servicing of the foreign debt could be equivalent to as much as 68 percent of the exports for this year. Due to this the finance minister defined Bolivia's economic situation as very delicate.

WITHHOLDING OF LOAN IMPAIRS NATURAL GAS SALES

PY211938 Paris AFP in Spanish 0347 GMT 20 Aug 80

[Text] La Paz, 19 Aug (AFP)--According to information released today by the afternoon daily ULTIMA HORA of this capital, due to the stalemate in the negotiations for a $32 million loan from the World Bank and the IDB, Bolivia cannot assess its reserves of natural gas.

This information was disclosed right after Brazilian Foreign Ministry spokesman Bernardo Pericas had just reported that his country will not purchase Bolivian gas until the reserves of the selling country are evaluated.

In the meantime, as long as these reserves remain an unknown quantity, the World Bank and the IDB will not grant the loans necessary to build the gas pipeline from Santa Cruz (Bolivia) to Corumba (Brazil), which will cost over $1 billion.

Gen Luis Garcia Meza has repeatedly stated that he wants to sell gas to Brazil as soon as possible. In addition to this, official sources have explained that for the time being no date has been set to renegotiate, at the level of bilateral commissions, the price of the natural gas which Bolivia is selling to Argentina.

VIDELA HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN BRASILIA 20 AUG

PY211433 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0035 GMT 21 Aug 80

[By Jorge Brinsek]

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 20 Aug (NA)--Argentine President Jorge Rafael Videla this afternoon told Brazilian journalists, regarding the status of persons missing in Argentina, that "the Argentine people are the only judges (regarding what has been done during the anti-subversive struggle). The Argentine people have accepted the situation and therefore there is nothing more to talk about."

Videla, who held a 30-minute press conference with Brazilian journalists during his last day in Brasilia, refuted the reports that Argentine had interfered in the military coup which ousted Lidia Gueiler's constitutional Bolivian administration.

Videla expressed his belief that a peaceful and lasting solution for the border conflict with Chile will be found by means of the pope's mediation and reaffirmed that the only objective of the Argentine Armed Forces is to bring democracy to the country.

Videla asked the Brazilian journalists to forgive him for the short time available for the press conference: "I would have liked to spend much more time with you, but unfortunately the many engagements of my agenda preclude this," he stated.

The press conference was also attended by Argentine journalists who are covering the presidential trip. Basically what Videla did during the press conference was reaffirm to the Brazilian press the positions which are well known in Argentina, through earlier statements of the president himself on the occasion of other press conferences, in connection with human rights, the Bolivian issue and the pope's mediation.

In view of the short time available for the press conference only 7 of the 30 Brazilian journalists who attended the conference were able to ask questions.

In response to a question, Videla categorically rejected the possibility that his recent remarks to the effect that Argentina views the Bolivian coup d'etat in a favorable light will harm relations between Brazil and Argentina.

"First of all, I would like to make clear," Videla said, "that Argentina did not interfere with this military uprising beforehand, because we believe that it is an exclusively Bolivian issue."

Videla added that "once the uprising took place and became an irreversible fact steeming from a given situation, Argentina recognized the new Bolivian Government by way of expressing support to a brother nation; and Argentina has promised, in addition to the purely political act of recognition, economic support should this be necessary in view of the needy situation which this brother country is experiencing."

Videla went on to say: "I believe that Brazil's attitude has not been very different from ours because it has also recognized the Bolivian Government; therefore, I do not see how this can cause a cooling of relations with Argentina. The fact that I am here after the event is proof that no such things has happened, and I must say that I have received from both the Brazilian Government and people an attentive and affectionate welcome."

Videla was then asked about the opinion of his military government about the progressive institutional normalization in Latin American countries which had previously been ruled by military regimes.

After explaining the reasons which led the Argentine Armed Forces to take over the power in 1976, Videla said that steps are being taken to gradually reestablish democracy in Argentina.

"Argentina is not afraid of democracy. Neither Argentina, nor the Argentines, nor the current Argentine Government are afraid of democracy. On the contrary, we all want democracy as soon as the conditions for it are right."

In connection with the recent installation of President Fernando Belaunde Terry's constitutional administration in Peru, Videla said that this "shows that when there is a will to reach democracy, the peoples can do it, as long as the conditions are right. The Peruvian case is an example for Argentina, because after a military government Peru has been able to attain democracy, and Argentina believes that the outcome of our process will be the same."

When another journalist asked him whether Argentina would reject the ruling of the pope on the border conflict with Chile, should the verdict be unfavorable to Argentina, Videla said that the mediator "is not a court of arbitration" and therefore there can be no ruling.

Videla described the current stage of relations between Argentina and Brazil as "brilliant" and explained that all countries, especially neighboring countries, have to go through a process of ups and downs "which happily have been overcome in this case." After recalling that all prior differences had been resolved after the reconciliation of the disagreements regarding the utilization of the resources of the Parana River, which is commonly owned by Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil, Videla forecast a promising future for bilateral relations and expressed hopes that "this situation will continue for a long time."

Talking about the intervention of the armed forces in Argentina's political life, Videla reviewed the achievements between 1976 and the present.

A journalist of an international news agency accredited in Brasilia asked Videla about the measures which his government had implemented to resolve the status of the persons which are missing in Argentina as a result of the antisubversive struggle.

Videla outlined Argentina's situation during the terrorist attacks "aimed at changing our way of life and taking over power through violence" and explained that "the armed forces and the Argentine people had accepted the challenge and had prepared themselves for the fight.

"It was a war which we neither looked for nor wanted. Among its consequences are fatalities, missing persons and prisoners. We do not rejoice in the sorrow of others. We share the sorrow of those who have lost loved ones. The two sides had to pay the price. We share the sorrow of those who have no news about some loved one. We echo this sorrow and feel it as if it were our own, because it is the sorrow of all Argentines."

In conclusion Videla was asked about his speech yesterday at the Itamaraty in which he mentioned the creation of an ideological and harmonious front against the countries which harass those nations which are struggling against terrorism.

Videla said that what he had said must be considered with the understanding that Argentina is not advocating the creation of any specific bloc. On the contrary Argentina believes that all nations and especially Western nations must realize that this aggression does not stop at anything in its efforts to change the way and meaning of our lifestyle."

GOVERNMENT DENIES RECOGNITION OF BOLIVIAN JUNTA

PA192126 Paris AFP in Spanish 1844 GMT 19 Aug 80

[Text] Bogota, 19 Aug (AFP)--Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe denied here today reports that Colombia has recognized the new military regime in Bolivia.

In a statement to newsmen, Uribe said that the fact that the Colombian ambassador is remaining in his post in La Paz does not mean that the Julio Cesar Turbay government has recognized the military junta which overthrew President Lidia Gueiler. The foreign minister thus denied reports from La Paz that Colombia had tacitly recognized the de facto government in Bolivia.

M-19 REITERATES REJECTION OF AMNESTY OFFER

PA201733 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0207 GMT 20 Aug 80

[Text] Bogota, 19 Aug (EFE)--The Colombian guerrilla group, 19 April Movement (M-19), has confirmed that it will not accept the amnesty proposed by the national government because it does not reflect the country's current economic, political and social situation.

In a communique sent to the media, the M-19 members currently being tried in a verbal court-martial state that attempts are being made to turn the initiative into "the Liberal Party's great lever for the presidential elections of 1980."

According to them, the amnesty project has been proposed so that "overnight, thanks to a formal touch-up, the ugly face of antidemocracy can again smile and gain votes, but we political prisoners say no to that."

The amnesty has been rejected ever since President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala announced it because the various armed groups want those who have already been sentenced or who are being tried to also be pardoned.

Last week, after kidnapping Congressman Simon Bossa Lopez and four newsmen, the M-19 turned in a document proposing the total reorganization of the current social, political and economic systems in order to accept the amnesty. The government has flatly rejected this proposition.

JOINT TRAINING OF NATIONAL GUARD, U.S. FORCES ANNOUNCED

PA211528 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 21 Aug 80 pp 1A, 8A

[Communique issued by the Panamanian Ministry of Government and Justice--no date given]

[Text] The Government and Justice Ministry reports that an instruction and training program of units of the Panamanian National Guard and the U.S. Armed Forces will begin on 22 August 1980 to prepare them for the protection and defense of the Panama Canal in accordance with the provisions of the Panama Canal treaty signed in 1977 and which took effect on 1 October 1979.

The program includes exercises by both forces, in U.S. military areas by Panama National Guard, and in the Republic of Panama by the U.S. Armed Forces. The members of each force who participate in the exercises will also receive training from the other force. For the first time, the maneuvers and training are being organized and supervised by the combined board created by the Torrijos-Carter treaties and directly responsible for the protection and defense of the canal after consulting with the respective governments.

[Signed] Ricardo Alonso Rodriguez, government and justice minister.

PRESIDENT ROYO TO VISIT VENEZUELA 22 AUG

PA220356 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] President Aristides Royo will make a 10-hour visit to Venezuela tomorrow to meet twice with his colleague, Luis Herrera Campins, and sign a $100 million credit to be invested in public works in Panama.

Royo, who will visit Venezuela for the first time since he became president, will be received at 1100 by the Venezuelan president at Simon Bolivar Airport and will hold his first meeting 1 hour later.

Although the agenda has not been published, official circles revealed that the two presidents will discuss the Central American, Caribbean and international situations. They will also talk about implementation of the Venezuelan and Mexican agreement signed at the beginning of this month to supply the Central American and Caribbean countries with petroleum.

Half an hour later President Royo will sign the $100 million credit agreement granted by Venezuela to Panama for public works. Most of the credit will be spent on a bridge over the Panama Canal to join Panama City and the Pan-American Highway. The loan will also serve to build three overpasses in Panama City and a highway to the canal bridge.

DEMONSTRATORS IN DAVID PROTEST BUS FARE HIKE

PA192027 Panama City Circuito RPC-Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Aug 80

[Text] Today some 500 persons demonstrated on the streets of David, Chiriqui Province, to protest the 5-cent rate increase in transportation fares effective today. Reliable sources told this station that all activities at the schools in Pedregal, Revolucion and La Primavera, on the outskirts of David, were suspended. Meanwhile, traffic to the Enrique Malek International Airport and other neighboring communities is being blocked. Residents participating in the movement told this station the protest will continue until the authorities contact them to discuss the issue.

BELIZE

PREMIER PRICE LEAVES FOR U.S. VISIT

FL220114 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 22 Aug 80

[Text] Premier Price, accompanied by the honorable V. H. Courtenay [minister of state in the premier's office] has left Belize for a visit to the United States.

COSTA RICA

DECISION TO MAINTAIN WEST JERUSALEM EMBASSY EXPLAINED

PA211656 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus has stated that the Costa Rican Embassy in West Jerusalem will remain there. He pointed out that that embassy has been in that city for several years and, therefore, the government finds no important reason to transfer it elsewhere.

The problem stems from the fact that many countries have decided to transfer their embassies from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. The report adds that the countries which have withdrawn their embassies from Jerusalem and relocated them in Tel Aviv have done so fearing the reaction by the Arabs, and have warned that any country that recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish state is placing itself in a state of war with the Arab world, which could lead to the suspension of the supply of oil or the breaking of diplomatic relations.

Jerusalem was a divided city for many years. Part of it was under the Israeli flag and the other part was under the Jordanian flag. The situation there changed after the 6-day war.

The Costa Rican decision does not imply approval of the Israeli decision. In a press communique, the Foreign Ministry notes that the decision to maintain our embassy in Jerusalem does not at all imply that our government approves of the Israeli Government's measures. It adds that the Costa Rican Government has agreed that Ronaldo Fernandez, its ambassador to that country, will not visit those offices of the Israeli Government which are opened in East Jerusalem; that is, in the part of that city which for years was under the sovereignty of Jordan, the Arab state which together with Egypt and Syria lost the 6-day war.

PRESIDENT, DELEGATION TO LEAVE FOR NICARAGUA 22 AUG

PA200407 San Jose Radio Noticias del Continente in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Aug 80

[Text] Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo will go to Nicaragua on 22 August for a 3-day official visit. The main reason for this visit is to participate in the closing events of the national literacy crusade which will end on Saturday. It has been reported that President Carazo will be accompanied by Presidency Minister Jose Rafael Cordero, Education Minister Maria Eugenia Dengo de Vargas and Human Promotion Minister Marina Volio. Other ministers who will accompany the president will be Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus, Public Works and Transportation Minister Rodolfo Mendez and Planning Minister Wilburg Jimenez. Thus, President Carazo will have visited Nicaragua twice in less than a week. As it may be recalled, he visited Masaya on Sunday on a private visit to participate in the coronation of Our Lady of the Assumption held in Monimbo. The president will return to the country at noon on Sunday.

TALKS ON BANANA STRIKE TO RESUME

PA211840 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Telephone report by Hugo Espinoza from Ciudad Neilly--live]

[Excerpts] A group of Golfito Workers Union members headed by Edwin Oviedo, the union's secretary general who had been detained in the southern police post, went last night to the capital to join the talks which are scheduled to take place early this morning to resolve this difficult labor problem in the southern region.

It was learned that he will hold talks with the government and that these talks will be based on several proposals of the government, the banana company and the workers union.

Meanwhile, it has been reported that the government has arranged in the past few hours for the arrival of helicopters and more antiriot equipment from the United States so patrolling of the strike can be done from the air, thereby avoiding direct contact with the strikers, and maintaining a broader and quicker control of those points where any conflict might break out.

Regarding the zone of La Estrella Valley the situation is normal. However, there are serious problems in the Bandeco farms. Colonel Munoz announced that the police will arrive today to try to impose order in all those sectors.

Therefore, in the past few hours there has been no violence in the southern region of the country. We are awaiting the results of the talks which will be resumed early today and it is firmly hoped that this banana conflict may be completely solved by the end of this week.

EL SALVADOR

POWER COMPANY STRIKE BLACKS OUT COUNTRY

PA220148 Buenos Aires LATIN Spanish 0108 GMT 22 Aug 80

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 21 Aug (LATIN)--The distribution of electric power was completely suspended today throughout El Salvador after the power company workers union declared a strike to demand the release of political prisoners.

The strike has begun to affect telecommunications and the distribution of drinking water, because the pumps are stopped.

The armed forces general staff and the chiefs of the security corps throughout the country were called into an immediate emergency session at the National Defense Ministry to analyze the grave situation, a military spokesman told LATIN.

The leadership of the union on strike warned that it will remain on strike indefinitely until the government and the company give in to its demands. In addition to the release of political prisoners, the striking workers are demanding the rehiring of 30 trusted workers who were fired by the company yesterday for participating in two recent national strikes called by the left in its struggle against the government junta.

Union and company spokesmen announced that negotiations were begun immediately between representatives from both sides to find a solution to the grave conflict.

MORALES EHRLICH ADDRESSES NATION ON RECENT STRIKE

PA212253 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Speech to nation by Government Junta member Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich--live]

[Text] Good evening, dear friends. In line with the revolutionary government's policy of being constantly in touch with the people, tonight I will speak in the name of my associates to continue with that exchange and analysis and to continue on this path which can lead us to a social system of peace, justice and brotherhood.

On this occasion, I must refer to the incidents which have just occurred so we can use them as experience and then act as an entire nation on a specific path which will guarantee that new society of which we have spoken so much.

We all know that on 13, 14 and 15 August the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR]--or better said, the Coordinating Board of the Masses because the front is nothing but the Coordinating Board plus one or two people--announced a nationwide general strike. They made a number of preparations and they announced the strike 6 or 7 days before it was held. They invited newsmen from throughout the world. About 100 foreign newsmen arrived. They made a number of preparations so that there would be a climate of great tension and so they would achieve their objective of paralyzing the country and stopping people from going to work and to stop the businesses and factories from opening. That was the objective of all those preparations.

I repeat, they called newsmen from all over the world and they held a news conference at the office of the Human Rights Commission. I take advantage of this opportunity to make the following observation: I don't think the human rights office is really the most adequate location for announcing general strikes, for announcing terrorist acts, street disturbances, attacks and so forth. I think that is a negation of human rights.

Well, at that same news conference, these people said that a 5-day strike would be held and that it would be accompanied by activities in all neighborhoods and by street action. They said that if at any time the people were forced to work they would then use all their military equipment [equipo militar] and so on. They announced terrorist acts.

I think all of us know well that the famous strike of 13, 14 and 15 August was not successful. It was really a failure. What the people did--and we must understand it like this--by going to work was to say: Gentlemen, enough of violence. Let us take a new path. It is not true, as the Coordinating Board or these leftist people say, that the people want a war here. This is not true. The people want peace. That is how we must view that strike. It was a failure. In other words, it was a victory for the people in the struggle to achieve peace, to find a path in which ideas can be expressed and discussed and to decide, within pluralism, what is most advisable for the society.

Since the labor strike was not successful because the Salvadorans went to work, there was an attempt to turn the strike into violence. Many members of the media, although they accepted that the strike was a failure--the entire world knows it was a failure--began to immediately stress that there had been 60, 80 or 100 dead as the various newsmen reported.

In truth, gentlemen, I think it is time that we think about this. Since so many foreign newsmen came, I had the opportunity to talk with some of them, some communists, some French and so forth. They agreed that when they were called to that news conference by the leftists in which they were invited to witness the departure of the government junta--that was how the invitation was made--they noted that either these boys of the front are not great political analysts--because they thought they had a huge popular support and in truth they did not have it--or as a newsman told me, something really big was going to occur that night which would paralyze activities the following day. Nothing happened. The people went to work, All that they had planned failed.

The problem that we have is that all of this is being done for export. I think the lack of popular support for the left is increasingly more evident. They are waging an international battle. That is why there are reports abroad indicating that we are in the middle of a full-fledged war, that everything is changing here, that the strikes have been successful.

I can give you an example. Please focus the cameras on this cable dated 13 August. It states: El Salvador. Deaths. San Jose, 13 August, AFP. At least 80 leftist militants were killed by the Salvadoran Armed Forces in clashes which occurred in the suburbs of San Salvador during the first day of general strike. It was confirmed here tonight by Father Benito Tovar, a member of the Salvadoran Marxist People's Revolutionary Bloc [BPR]. Tovar, who is in exile in Costa Rica, stressed that the strike called by the left is a great success, at least in rural areas, where the strike was 100 percent successful, quoting the BPR as source.

Father Tovar added that reports coming out of San Salvador are false. One hundred percent of industry is at a standstill as well as 90 percent of commerce, although 25,000 troops of the armed forces were mobilized, [he said].

As you can see, we are really witnessing schemes that cause us to sit down and think. It is obvious that the leftists have reached a point where they can export violence by making the world believe that they are involved in civil strife, in civil war in this country in which all the people are at war with the government, in which all the peasants went on strike, as this gentleman says. I do not know if Father Tovar is still active in the priesthood; he lives in Costa Rica. But, when he says that not a single peasant went to work, that all industries were paralyzed, that 90 percent of commerce--you who are now listening to me: Can you say this man is right? Or is he a political fanatic? Or is he lying openly?

But gentlemen, this is the point we have reached. I really believe they are going to fall prey to their own propaganda.

What has happened these days? There has been much damage, a lot of it. Physical damage. But there have also been deaths and this must be regretted.

I wish to explain something. I want you to think about this and then you'll say I'm right.

Who called the strike? The Coordinating Board of the Masses. Who made all the preparations? Who called in the newsmen? Who outlined the objectives to be attacked? The towers that were going to be blown up? The trucks that were going to be ambushed? The stations and electrical substations that were going to be attacked? They did. What about the buses that were going to be burned? They did. They prepared, they acted, they attacked, they used their military materiel and they lost.

This is something that foreign reporters also thought about.

There were deaths, and this is regrettable. There should not have been any. There were about 100 deaths during that weeklong strike. Some were security agents or members of the army. But mostly, they were guerrillas who participated in attacks. There were also political assassinations. I will talk about this later.

All this demonstrates poor military 'ecnique on the part of these gentlemen. They came, they attacked and they lost. But they caused deaths, and it is these deaths that are being exploited abroad. This is what makes it appear as though the situation were disastrous here in this country, as though it were falling apart. You, who have lived through these days, have seen how an entire nation wanted to work and everything possible was done to stop people from going to work.

Eight electricity pylons were blown up to put out the lights, which is why there were outages. Buses were burned. Attempts were made to scare people. Rumors were begun to stop people from working. But we all did go to work.

We must also analyze another aspect of the strike. There was property damage. On the first day, four buses were burned. The idea was to put out lights, and this is why seven or eight pylons were blown up. They were unable to achieve their goals; the pylons were repaired. Then, they turned to transportation. During the 3 days of the strike, 24 buses were burned: 3 on the first day, 17 on the second and 4 on the third.

Gentlemen: This is a very high price. A great many people have been left out in the cold. But things did not stop there. And this is what I would like all Salvadorans to see. After that, reprisals began. The strike did not succeed. It was a failure. Then, these gentlemen began to apply sanctions, punishment and so forth. There were attacks, like the attack on the minister of public works, whom they tried to kill. His security guard was killed.

Political assassinations. I wish to emphasize assassinations, because when a group of guerrillas seizes a bus and sets it on fire, with a man inside; when they arrive at a restaurant such as La Carreta, invite reporters to witness the affair and then shut people up inside to burn to death; when they assassinate a watchman, take people off buses and kill them then and there, this is political assassination. It is terrorism.

Buses. So far, 83 buses have been set on fire. A short time ago, I told you that 24 had been burned during the 3 days of strike and 70 more since the strike ended. All across the nation, they are setting buses on fire out of rage, out of rancor.

Abductions. They have begun to abduct industrialists. It will not be long before they do it to others.

Theft; extortion; stores, pharmacies and so forth have been shamelessly robbed.

What is this?

Gentlemen: It is a futile scheme of desperation, of defeat. It implies defeat and it also implies an effort to frighten people, but people are no longer frightened.

But then, they began these acts of vandalism, of burning buses, because, if in the future it occurs to them to strike again, they are going to say: We have already frightened these people.

Gentlemen: What happens then to the people who are now without work, with the millions of colones the burning of these buses and the blowing up of towers and repairs have cost? Think of how much all the workers and peasants, working from sunup to sundown, how much all Salvadorans are going to have to work to recover this 10 or 12 million which the 3 days of strike cost. (?It is these people) who work, because those who (?stop others) from working do nothing. They have grown used to living at the expense of others, to destroying everything. It is up to you to build again what they have destroyed.

It is time to reflect and decide that this is not the path.

That is the reason for this system of exportation [as heard]. Here, we have reality, and those gentlemen abroad wander around happily, speaking with horror about this country. They have the money to do it. But here again, this shows a lack of political analysis.

While they wander around abroad, without knowing the reality of El Salvador back here, other young people and other guerrilla-type persons go around committing acts that destroy any movement that may have emerged from a good cause.

What is the consequence? The degeneration of popular organizations. We can no longer say it is the product of desperation. No, gentlemen. We have reached the limits of hypocrisy. It is being said that rights are being defended, but all human rights are being attacked. It is being said that liberty is being defended, but an entire nation is being dominated and scared. In a word, life is being defended, but there are deaths galore.

Another consequence is the increase of common crime. The leftwing is to blame for this, for having given arms to these common criminals. We have come to the point where nobody knows if we are dealing with leftist organizations or with mere common criminals engaged in all kinds of misdeeds. This is a struggle that concerns us all.

With their crimes they have prevented a government action against rightist terrorism. Because all this terrorism exists and we condemn it strongly. It is not right in this country for anybody to appoint himself judge and determine the fate of a human being. Today, I learned that other bodies were found in a park in Ilopango. This shows me a tendency toward sadism and [words indistinct].

Naturally, when the emotions are stirred up and increased, then comes the war of the extremes, and this type of action causes the greatest harm to the government because it mars its image and prevents it from operating, while frustrating many people. Who suffers the most for this? The people are the big losers. The unemployed drivers and the people who have lost their small businesses. In all, the cost of this recovery also includes the constant fear in which the people live.

Gentlemen, we believe all Salvadorans must be clearly aware that we must avail ourselves of the experience obtained from all that is happening in the country. We are not going to speak of victories, not at all. Nobody can claim victory over others, much less we as a government.

The decision of the Salvadoran people means that the governing junta has a great obligation with respect to the people and with respect to you.

The people, and you as part of that people, have chosen the path of peace, of revoution in freedom, of a social justice without violence, and that decision, we say to you, commits us even more. We tell you that we are with you; that we are with the people. There is a new path, and it is that path along which, as a revolutionary governing junta, we are struggling. These are the facts. This government has designed a different nonviolence scheme for El Salvador, within which we can all participate and build a new, different, humane, and equal society.

I also want to issue an appeal to the left, to tell them, gentlemen of the Coordinating Board in the various fronts: In contrasting what you said years ago at the beginning with what is taking place now, with the Salvadoran reality, I say to you that you are counterrevolutionaries. Analyze the action of the Coordinating Board of these groups of youths on the streets. It is holding up change and the revolution, and that is counterrevolutionary.

They are merely looking for a fight over political power; to kill and destroy to gain power, disregarding the suffering of an entire people. Gentlemen: I think it is time we realize very seriously and sincerely that this is a struggle for power, because they are obeying other interests. We, as the revolutionary governing junta, are concerned for your interests, for the people's interests, and that is what we are fighting for.

I also want to issue an appeal to the left, to tell them: Gentlemen, do not continue with this scheme. You are losing popular support. You do not have popular support. You have reached a stage of vandalism. The movement has degenerated into terrorism, assassination, the negation of all those values for which the struggle began. I want to tell them: You are Salvadorans. You also have the right to live in El Salvador. As a government, we tell them that we are not designing a democratic system within which [words indistinct] but within the rules of the democratic game, try to use popular support. We also work for that popular support.

To the people we say that it is not a matter of intransigency. That we must not seek extermination but the path where we may all be able to participate, respecting the rules of the democratic game, which were designed precisely so that the people may express themselves. Let us put a stop to violence, to armed confrontation, as there is no reason to continue in this daily death race.

Finally I want to appeal to all, especially the young people, and tell them that the future of this country hinges on you. I have heard some young people who have joined the extremes say that here there is no place for a democratic scheme; that every effort has been made to struggle within a climate of freedom but that the government has not permitted it. Gentlemen, this is false. [Words indistinct] but now, the junta has designed a scheme within which one may participate, may take action and may influence the political decisions of the people in a peaceful and effective manner. The junta is guaranteeing this. The people who struggled in the past for these rights now guarantee you that such rights are going to be fulfilled to serve the people, the youths, to all.

Friends, I conclude by making a final appeal. Let us follow the democratic scheme. All forces desiring peace must join forces to support this process, to rally with the people to support it, to accept what little violence will still affect them but which will abate [words indistinct] and finally, with all the people create that new society we all desire with justice, humanity and dignity. Thank you and good night.

COMMENTARY CITES GOVERNMENT JUNTA 'DIFFERENCES'

PA220331 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 2123 GMT 20 Aug 80

[Commentary: "Colonel Majano's Statements"]

[Text] The newspaper EL MUNDO yesterday published an AP item on statements that Colonel Majano had made to that international news agency. We were also able to listen to more of Colonel Majano's statements through a Spanish radio broadcast. From what we read in EL MUNDO and heard in the Spanish radio, we concluded that Colonel Majano has a different opinion of the country's situation from those of the other members of the government junta, the armed forces high command and the U.S. Embassy. Consequently, his solution to the nation's problems is also different from theirs.

If we add to this the fact that Colonel Majano kept out of the public eye during the nationwide strike so that no one could use his personal prestige to attack the strike or the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR], we can easily deduce that there are basic differences among the members of the government junta over the following issues:

1. The country's disastrous situation with its violence, repression, poverty and injustice cannot be blamed exclusively on the leftwing or on subversives. The extreme rightwing is chiefly to blame for this situation because it has ruled the country for many years and still has a powerful grip on the government and the army.

2. The leftwing should not be the main target of a punitive action. This action should be carried out against the extreme right, contrary to what is being done now. The action needed consists of profound economic reforms, such as those being carried out now as well as political and military reforms not yet initiated.

3. The situation in the country is so serious and abnormal that the elections proposed by Duarte, the high command and the U.S. Embassy are not the solution. The solution is to have all sectors of the population participate in the government. Among these sectors, the most important is the FDR with which it is necessary to start a dialogue and perhaps reach a social agreement.

4. If in reality the military cannot establish contacts with leftiwng groups, then it should establish contact with the FDR, a non-military organization having contacts with armed leftwing groups.

5. It is important for the army to modify its conduct which did not happen after 15 October as promised. Thus seriously compromising the ideals expressed on that occasion. Military justice is far from fulfilling its promises.

These are the strong differences which still exist among members of the junta, the armed forces high command and the U.S. Embassy, which through its ambassador has reiterated its support for junta's democratization and pacification plan. These differences are what kept Colonel Majano from showing up at San Carlos headquarters since the promises made on 15 October have not been kept.

As it stands now, neither the FDR, with all the broad sectors of the population which forms it, nor the dissident Christian Democrats, nor the progressive sectors of the armed forces who are with Colonel Majano, are in favor of the government's plan. What is so serious about the situation are the facts that the two trends within the government are irreducible and that it is not Colonel Majano's group which is in control, but his adversaries'. This makes the possibility of a dialogue as well as a nonviolent solution to the situation much more difficult. Therefore, we are recommend that our radio listeners take notice of this situation and start forming their own opinions of what is really happening and what could be the best solutions for the country.

JUNTA MEMBER MAJANO VISITS AGRARIAN REFORM AREA

PA211937 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Aug 80

[Text] San Salvador--A member of the revolutionary government junta visited farms where the agrarian reform program is being implemented in various parts of the republic. Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano presided over a meeting of more than 2,000 peasant delegates at the Salvadoran Agrarian Reform Institute to analyze the results obtained from the new land holding system. Colonel Majano also attended a general assembly of the savings and loan cooperative of (Sapotitan). He was accompanied by Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Octavio Orellana Felix. They both discussed the benefits which peasant families have already obtained by becoming the owners of the land they are now tilling.

COMBINED MILITARY OPERATION ELIMINATES 'GUERRILLA CELLS'

PA212250 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 20 Aug 80 p 3

[Text] Several guerrilla cells operating between the Lempa River and the San Vicente Department litoral were eliminated yesterday afternoon by a combined search operation carried out by the armed forces and security corps, military press committee spokesmen said today.

The operation, they said, was begun yesterday morning from two points, from the Cuzcatlan Bridge on the Lempa River and the San Vicente litoral zone. The forces came together at several ranches which have been incorporated into the agrarian reform process. The ranches are located in the northern part of San Vicente Department. Counter-guerrilla forces of military detachment No 5 of the San Vicente garrison participated in the operation. Reports say that the operation should be completed this afternoon.

Several groups were discovered yesterday afternoon and last night. These fled through the jungle with the army in pursuit.

The Armed Forces Press Committee communique says in conclusion that interdepartmental transport service buses were attacked in various sectors of Aguachapan, Santa Ana, Sonsonate and other departments. The army has begun a new series of patrols to keep these attacks to the minimum.

17 Guerrillas Killed

PA212224 San Salvador DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 21 Aug 80 pp 2, 21

[Excerpts] Seventeen guerrillas were killed yesterday between 0200 and 1300 while resisting a combined military operation in Piedras Blancas and El Pilon--known as Gavilan Heights--near Lake Olomega.

At the end of the operation, 17 unidentified bodies were found and it is believed that the wounded were removed by the retreating guerrillas. Some 300 chlorate bombs were found at the place and detonated on the spot because of the danger involved in handling them. Electric wire and a large amount of the 28 February People's Leagues' propaganda was found at the site. The military operation involved Olomega, El Carmen and Intipuca.

Military spokesman said that air force helicopters had been attacked from Cochagua Heights by terrorists firing G-3 and Galil rifles. The helicopters were not hit.

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER DEFENDS ABSENCE FROM MANAGUA MEETING

PA212032 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] The Nicaraguan ambassador to Guatemala yesterday insinuated that Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras boycotted a meeting of foreign ministers scheduled to be held in Managua. Guatemala Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez commented on this today, indicating that the nation should invest its efforts in things that yield better results:

[Begin recording] Our Foreign Ministry was very clear concerning the meeting when it indicated that adequate conditions for the meeting did not exist. We believe that Guatemala should participate in any meeting where the time and work invested by the Guatemalans will result in something, even if it is small, that will benefit our Central American peoples. [end recording]

Castillo Valdez also reported that there are still almost 20 refugees in the Guatemalan Embassy in Nicaragua: [Begin recording] There are still 19 Nicaraguan refugees in our embassy in Managua. We have not received any information on whether the Nicaraguan Government has decided to grant the safe-conducts so they can leave. [end recording]

RUMOR ON BELIZEN UNILATERAL INDEPENDENCE DISCOUNTED

PA201914 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Aug 80

[Text] Strong rumors circulated yesterday in Belize that that Guatemalan territory might obtain a unilateral independence from the English Government. This version was propagated by the local papers, which reported on the issue profusely.

Although no official comment was made here, no importance has been attached to this rumor, which might be merely part of a campaign launched by Premier Price.

According to Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez, the talks with the English commission will continue in September and October, as agreed with the acting [as heard] UK Foreign Minister, who recently visited this country. Minister Castillo Valdez added that many hours of work are needed to resolve the Belizean issue, which dates back to many years before the independence of Central America.

NICARAGUA

JUNTA PROTESTS VOA REPORT TO U.S. AMBASSADOR

PA211513 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government junta has protested to the U.S. ambassador the distortion by the Voice of America, the official voice of the U.S. Government, of the law that prohibits Christmas advertisements.

Here is the text of that protest which also demanded a rectification of the report which was broadcast:

Mr Ambassador Lawrence A. Pezzullo, U.S. Embassy

Dear Ambassador:

A Voice of America report aired yesterday at 2030 Nicaraguan time indicated that the National Reconstruction Government junta had issued a decree prohibiting commercial advertisements that promote the sale of Christian-inspired objects and images at Christmas.

On the instructions of the National Reconstruction Government junta, I am addressing this letter to you to protest such a misrepresentation of the real decree issued by our government which was widely disseminated inside tne outside Nicaragua. This protest is being filed in light of the fact that the Voice of America is an official station of the U.S. Government and its correspondent in Nicaragua is a U.S. Embassy employee, Mr Conrado Godoy.

Far from prohibiting the sale of Christian-inspired objects and images, the National Reconstruction Government junta has issued this measure to preserve the true spirit of solidarity and fraternity which the festivities of the birth of Christ should embody and to remove those celebrations from commercialism and mercantile manipulation. We hope that through this measure we can also set an example for other countries which as a result of past influences have bequeathed to us the distortion of our Christmas festivities and the substitution of their popular meaning and symbols for others which are completely alien to our tradition.

We hope that the Voice of America will issue to its audience a sincere rectification of the falsehood of the aired report because it deeply harms the image of our revolution.

Free fatherland or death!

Emilio Baltodano Cantarero, minister-secretary of the government junta.

REPORTAGE ON NONALIGNED NEWS AGENCIES MEETING

'Slander Campaign'

PA191525 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Aug 80

[Text] At the meeting of the coordinating committee of the nonaligned countries' agencies pool oday, Nicaragua charged that imperialism is perpetrating a slander campaign against the Sandinist revolution. Nicaragua made the charge during the important meeting being attended in Managua by 14 delegations of news agencies and observers of several countries and international organizations. Nicaragua is seeking international solidarity to confront the campaign which has essentially been unleashed in the United States.

Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the National Reconstruction Government junta, and Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez, member of the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, spoke on this campaign to the meeting.

Sergio Ramirez made an interesting analysis of the reactionary press organs' effort to present to the world public a distorted view of events in Nicaragua. He explained that Nicaragua is waging a war on two fronts: Internationally, it defends the principles of its revolution, showing the fairness of the process being undertaken, while domestically, it combats the ideological harassment of the sectors which have been displaced from political power. The Sandinist leader said that these two situations are the expression of the struggle against an anti-Nicaraguan plan promoted by the most reactionary sectors of international capitalism. He noted that the struggle is not between a new and an old journalism but between a new and an old society. He also explained that the Nicaraguan revolution's concept of freedom of the press is nothing like the one held by the IAPA and other organizations which respond to similar interests of the management.

Like Ramirez' speech, Commander Nunez' speech was loudly applauded. Speaking on behalf of Nicaragua's political vanguard, Nunez asked for the support of the new organs which defend a truly honest journalism.

The false reports spread by the U.S. press regarding an alleged arms trafficking through Nicaraguan territory to the Salvadoran revolutionaries are clear proof of the Sandinist leaders' charges.

Observers attending the fifth meeting of the nonaligned pool stressed the impact caused by the Nicaraguan charges and forecast that Nicaragua would receive effective solidarity in the information field.

Meeting 'Successful'

PA211801 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] The fifth meeting of the coordinating committee of the nonaligned countries' news agency pool was adjourned at [time indistinct] this afternoon in Managua. The meeting was held at the Intercontinental Hotel. The final resolution will be announced at 1000 tomorrow.

Pool President Companero Pedro Ivacic expressed his gratitude to the Sandinist National Liberation Front's [FSLN] national leadership, to the governing junta of national reconstruction, to the Union of Journalists of Nicaragua, and particularly to the campanero members of the NEW NICARAGUAN NEWS AGENCY, for having made possible the success of the fifth meeting of the pool's coordinating committee.

The following is the statement by William Grigsly, the Nicaraguan delegate to the meeting [words indistinct]:

[Begin recording] I believe that one of the most positive results for the NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY as well as for Nicaragua and the Sandinist popular revolution is the fact that this was the first meeting of its type ever held in our country. In fact, it was the first of its kind to be held in Central America.

This has special significance for our country at this time when the revolution is going through a difficult phase and the transnational news agencies are depicting our revolution with a false, slanderous campaign, harmful to our people. This meeting has been emphatic in its opposition of such a campaign. For examale, it scored AFP for circulating a slanderous report involving our government in a fire that seriously damaged the El Cipote military installations.

The meeting has also been highly significant to the NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY as it served to establish close bonds with several agencies. In fact, we have signed two important agreements with Yugoslavia's TANJUG and Cuba's PRENSA LATINA. In addition, we are about to sign, probably tomorrow, a new agreement with NOTIMEX, of Mexico. Thus, the meeting has been highly significant from all viewpoints. [end recording]

After having heard Companero William Grigsly's message, we can say that this was a day of great activity for our Sandinist leaders as Comdr Tomas Borge Martinez and Comdr Bayardo Arce, both attended the meeting.

The following is the statement of Companero Carlos Garcia, member of the State Council and director of the NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY, at the closing session:

[Begin recording] This fifth meeting of the coordinating committee of the nonaligned countries' news agency pool has been particularly gratifying to our news agency and to our country. It is the first event of its kind ever held in Central America. As you know, the Nicaraguan revolutionary government and the FSLN have attributed great significance to this fifth meeting. The visit of Sergio Ramirez, member of the governing junta, and of Comdrs Carlos Nunez, Bayardo Arce and Tomas Borge Martinez fully confirmed the importance which our vanguard, the FSLN, and the Government of Nicaragua gave to this meeting.

We are deeply moved at this moment because we realize it is the culmination of great efforts on the part of our agency, with the full support of the Sandinist government, to bring this meeting to a successful conclusion. I want to take advantage of this occasion to express our deep appreciation and gratitude to the Cuban companeros who with their cooperation made the success of the meeting possible. We also want to thank the PRENSA LATINA leadership's contribution on this occasion, [Passage indistinct] as well as Yugoslav companeros. To all of them, in the name of the NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY and the people of Nicaragua, we say thank you.

We know that we have made many mistakes; that we were not able to offer all the facilities you deserved. Nevertheless, although we do not intend it as an excuse, we must explain that these miscues were basically due to our lack of experience and to the critical economic situation affecting our country as a result of the nefarious Somozist military dictatorship. We hope our apologies in this respect will be accepted.

We hope to have the opportunity to meet with you again in our country, confident that our pool will constantly grow and produce new information alternatives.

Long live the nonaligned movement! Long live Nicaragua! Thank you very much.
[end recording[

TANJUG Report

LD211230 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1114 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] Managua, 21 Aug (TANJUG)--The fifth meeting of the coordinating committee of the non-aligned countries' news agency pool ended here in Managua yesterday evening. Consensus has been reached on all agenda items and the report on the implementation of the conclusions of the second pool conference, held in Belgrade last year, adopted. The report was submitted by the coordinating committee chairman.

The coordinating committee has adopted a resolution on the development of communications systems of non-aligned countries' news agencies in cooperation with UNESCO and on the non-aligned countries' news-agency pool's cooperation with the non-aligned countries' broadcasting organizations pool.

The committee has called on non-aligned countries' news agencies to prepare programmes for the observance of the 20th anniversary of the first non-aligned summit held in Belgrade in 1961.

The committe devoted special attention to forming new and developing the newly formed news agencies of non-aligned coutries.

All participants particularly stressed their satisfaction with the meeting being hosted by a Latin American country. The Managua meeting was the first coordinating committee meeting in Latin America. The NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY and the Government of Nicaragua devoted outstanding attention to the meeting. The meeting was addressed by ranking officials of the Sandinist Front and National Reconstruction Government.

The meeting participants were welcomed and addressed by Revolution Commander Carlos Nunez and junta member Sergio Ramirez. At the closing session, the participants were addressed by State Council Chairman Bayardo Arce.

The participants in the non-aligned countries' news agency pool coordinating committee meeting met with Nicaragua Internal Affairs Minister Tomas Borge and Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto offered a luncheon in their honour.

The conclusions adopted by the news agency pool coordinating committee point to Africa as a continent the most heavily affected by poorly devolped communications. One of the coming coordinating committee meetings will be devoted to the above problem and held in Africa. With the assistance of UNESCO, non-aligned countries' news agencies will work to contribute to the solution of communications problems in Africa.

Closing the meeting coordinating committee chairman Pedro Ivacic stressed the great success of the meeting made possible by the constructive spirit which all participants contributed to reaching concrete accords. Ivacic paid recognition to the NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY and thanked the National Reconstruction Government and the Sandinist Front for the great care and support devoted to the meeting.

The next meeting of the non-aligned countries' news-agency pool coordinating committee will be held in New Delhi in the first half of next year.

PANAMA'S ROYO ARRIVES FOR LITERACY CAMPAIGN CONCLUSION

PA211951 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] Managua--Panamanian President Aristides Royo arrived today. He has been invited to attend the celebrations marking the close of the crusade against illiteracy.

The Panamanian chief of state was welcomed at Cesar Augusto Sandino International Airport by the members of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and the cabinet.

President Royo stated that he felt deep emotion visiting this territory which has been liberated from an opprobious dictatorship which once had the rare privilege of having all of the world's democratic leaders against it. He added that the people of Nicaragua are respected in the entire world and that it is necessary to view this in an unbiased way and unde stand its active policy to accomplish the nation's reconstruction. The Panamanian head of state adds that the struggle of the Nicaraguan people is the struggle of all of America. He noted that the Nicaraguan economy is suffering the consequences of material destruction and that the Nicaraguan process should have the solidarity of the Panamanian people.

Regarding the literacy campaign, he commented that the results of the Nicaraguan campaign will be seen in the future. He added that there are 200,000 illiterates in Panama.

TECHNICAL PERSONNEL TRAINING PACT SIGNED WITH CUBA

PA211459 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] Cuba and Nicaragua, in coordination with the Pan American Health Organization, have signed an agreement to fully develop the national programs for the training of medium-level technical and auxiliary personnel in health sector. The agreement will start to be implemented later this month. The agreement includes the training of approximately 1,500 health technicians and auxiliaries who, at the conclusion of the course, will be sent to those areas where their services are required.

FRG SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADER REAFFIRMS SUPPORT

PA191918 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 13 Aug 80 pp 1, 5 no 2

[Excerpt] The solidarity of the German social democrats with the Nicaraguan revolution will continue tomorrow as it existed in the past and does today," said Mr Peter von Oertzen, member of the executive committee of the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] and president of the commission of political training of that same European party.

Mr Von Oertzen also confirmed the flat rejection of the Socialist International to the request by the group of Robelo which sought to "join" that international political organization. His visit to Nicaragua was to inspect activities of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation of his party in Latin America whereby solidarity with the Nicaraguan revolution is manifested.

He has held talks with Sergio Ramirez of the government junta and with Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano to learn more of the progress of the Nicaraguan revolution. They have reviewed topics such as the political situation and economic difficulties encountered by the revolution. He said that he has a picture of the position of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] and of the government junta on the matter of "elections" requested by the small groups affiliated with the private enterprise council.

They analyzed the various political forces that make up the revolutionary process and the need for a broad and frank discussion of national problems. They also discussed the mixed economy character of our government "which he considered will be of great importance in the future of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process," he noted. [sentence as published]

Asked if the solidarity of the German social democracy with the Nicaraguan revolution will continue unconditionally, Mr Peter von Oertzen replied: "We must make it clear that for the German SPD and for the Socialist International, the FSLN was the political friend which we supported. That is how it was in the past, how it is now and how it will be in the future."

"I am quite sure," he added, "that the SPD, the German Government and the Socialist International will continue to render their support in the future. We are in principle against intervention in the affairs of any country and we apply this to Nicaragua so as to not hinder its revolutionary process."

It is bad to exert influence from abroad on a revolutionary process such as this because it destroys not only coexistence between the countries but harms world peace as well, he noted.

He also referred to the democratic movement of Alfonso Robelo saying that his application to join the Socialist International was turned down in a session on 14 June of this year and the decision had been virtually unanimous.

Mr Peter von Oertzen stated that he has been quite impressed not only with the technical capacity of the national literacy crusade but by the level of organization, discipline and revolutionary spirit.

JUNTA MEMBER CORDOVA SPEAKS ON 'DIRECT LINE'

PA152209 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0200 GMT 15 Aug 80

["Direct Line" phone-in program with junta member Rafael Cordova Rivas, leader of the Democratic Conservative party]

[Excerpts] [Cordova] Good evening, free people of Nicaragua. It's a pleasure to be on this program to answer the many listeners' questions truthfully and logically. I would like to congratulate the program director for the great success of this program.

[Question] My name is Rene Cano. I salute you and want to ask three questions. I am 50 years old and never saw the traditional parties--conservative and liberal--hold elections where the true will of the people was expressed. For that reason I never voted. Please tell me if I was mistaken.

What will the future elections in the new Nicaragua be like and when is the revolutionary government going to convoke them?

[Answer] You were not wrong when you said there have been no free elections in the country for 45 years. Fake elections were held and many barbaric actions were perpetrated dring them. The culmination of this was the contest between Enoch Aguado and Leonardo Arguello. Arguello was Somoza's candidate and he only received a little over 10,000 votes in those elections, while Enoch Aguado received 420,000 votes. But, all Somoza had to do was to switch the result of the elections. Some 27 days later, he was forced to get rid of Leonardo Arguello, whom he had falsely elected.

As to future elections, we must be very careful. They will be free and orderly elections and, most importantly, the results will be respected. The people's will will be respected whenever they decide to vote. The Nicaraguan people can be sure that the revolutionary government, the governing junta of national reconstruction, will accept the free vote of the Nicaraguans.

[Question] My name is Alfonso Martinez. Dr Cordova Rivas, what do you think of Mr Reagan's statement that if he becomes President of the United States he will stop all aid to Nicaragua? What do you think of his political maturity?

[Answer] We should not interfere or give an opinion on U.S. elections because we would not like anyone to do the same concerning the elections in Nicaragua. Mr Reagan, however, referred directly to the case of Nicaragua and that gives us the right to express our opinion on his election. I frankly believe that while he made good cowboy films he is now making a very poor political showing. I believe that as a rightwing extremist, he will not obtain the necessary votes to be elected to president of the United States.

In the remote possibility that he should be elected, you must remember that candidates promise many things they later fail to do when in power. The people remain while the politicians pass on.

[Question] I am Enoch Marin and I would like to ask three questions: First, what do you think about holding truly free elections [words indistinct] in Nicaragua; second, do you agree that a group should request that the state apparatus be used for electoral campaign activities; and, third, do you agree with the [words indistinct] campaign against the daily LA PRENSA?

[Answer] Well, the law of rights and duties of the Nicaraguans states in article 1: The Nicaraguan people have the right to freely and fully establish their political condition and, likewise, contribute to their economic, social and cultural development. The state shall guarantee through this law the direct national and local participation of the people in the nation's fundamental activities.

The revolutionary government program also states in its article 1: The necessary legislation shall be promulgated to organize a regime of effective democracy, justice and social progress that will fully guarantee the right of all Nicaraguans to politically participate in free elections and in the organization and functioning of political parties without ideological discrimination, except for those parties or groups which may seek the return of Somozism. In other words, the two most important documents of our revolution clearly establish the right and bases to hold free elections.

Corrupt elections will probably never again be seen in this country because of the literacy campaign. The majority of the population will be able to read and will be aware of what they must do when casting their vote.

It will no longer be a vote of someone who knows nothing of what he is doing and who for a drink of liquor and a crumb of food or for 20 cordobas will change his vote.

The Nicaraguan of today is fully aware of what this revolution is doing for him. Now, it is natural and logical for those who led the people to victory to try to organize their political party. Of course, the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] is consolidating itself as a political party and has the right to engage in political campaigns, just as the Social Christians, the Independent Liberals, the Democratic Conservatives and others do.

Concerning the question on LA PRENSA, which I did not catch fully, I can say that the law and the governing junta itself establish the free dissemination of ideas.

In a country like Nicaragua, where democracy and freedom rule, there is nothing to prevent a newspaper from opposing the government. We are living in a free country where anyone has the right to express an opinion.

[Question] My name is Filiberto Obando and I want to ask two questions: First, since we, the Nicaraguan people, consider the FSLN to be our legitimate vanguard, why then are some parties trying to undermine the FSLN's vanguard role? Second, what do you think about the demand by some political parties for elections?

[Answer] First, I don't believe that the FSLN's role as the true vanguard of the people's struggle for freedom can be undermined because everybody recognizes that the front led the Nicaraguan people at a historic moment which constituted the most important aspect in the destruction of Somozism.

It is so important for all the people now to join forces against Somozism, because now, when they talk of counterrevolution, we have a most powerful weapon against it, namely, the people in arms. When the people are up in arms they do not recognize any party leadership because we are all Nicaraguans and we are all going to defend this revolution that cost 50,000 lives. It is not a matter of being an Independent Liberal, a Conservative, a Sandinist, a Socialist or anything.

We are all with the revolution and we are all going to defend this revolution with the people in arms since there is nothing that can resist such a mighty force. Let us remember that we defeated one of the best equipped armies of Latin America, one which claimed to have a perfect military organization.

As to the second question on the elections, I believe I already answered it when I referred to the government program's article 1 which establishes that there must be elections. When, how and where is something else. As a professor once told me: To win a case it is necessary to have the right, to know how to request it and have it given to you. We already have the right to hold elections. It is up to us to know how to convoke them and to consider the historic moment in which that right is to be granted to us.

We are still faced with many urgent problems. We have to continue working in the reconstruction of the country and altogether eliminate illiteracy in the country. In addition, other problems such as the Bolivian crisis must be dealt with. However, it is possible that by 1982 we may be able to hold municipal elections and after that, general elections.

It would be impossible, after 45 years of not knowing how to vote, to hold elections overnight. First, we must build the country's infrastructure in order to hold elections. So we must keep calm because we will have elections once the proper conditions are established.

[Question] My name is Rosario Beltran Calero. What measures will be adopted against the counterrevolutionaries trying to boycott our revolution?

[Answer] Although it is quite general, I will try to answer your question in the best possible manner. The measures to be adopted, which are being adopted against the counterrevolutionaries, are the same ones as those adopted by any state when it is attacked politically and basically. The counterrevolutionary is someone working against state security; therefore, such a person must be captured, if at all possible, and brought before a court to be tried according to the law. No individual has the right to try by force to change the present system of our country. Any ruler will try to defend his legal and established system against those who may make attempts against it by force.

[Question] I am Ramiro Palacios. When is the government going to get rid of the opportunistic elements in the administration?

[Answer] Frankly, this is one of the maladies of our revolution. There are many Sandinists who on 19 July wore the olive green uniforms to commit all types of abuses and they are still doing so. The state, however, will gradually eliminate that harmful element. In fact, it is one of the main obligations of the young Sandinists, Conservatives, Liberals, and any other political groups, to report those Somozists still prowling in some sectors. We must admit there are still opportunists in the administration, although we have eliminated many of them. It is one of the main tasks of the revolution to cleanse the nation of these elements.

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH GUINEA

FL211824 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] A signing ceremony of the scientific and technical cooperation protocol between the governments of Cuba and the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea was held today at the Sierra Maestra Hotel in Havana. Signing for the Cuban side was Comrade Raul Donas Santana, vice president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, and for Guinea Marcel Cros, secretary of state for international cooperation.

The protocol provides for technical assistance between the two countries in the branches of education, agriculture, sports, health, fisheries, construction and others as well as scholarships, training of cadres, exchange of technical documentation and delegations. The protocol will be in effect from 1980-1981.

GARCIA FRIAS CONDUCTS INSPECTION TOUR OF PORTS

FL201746 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Aug 80

[Text] In the port-transportation-domestic economy network the Cuban workers' response has been very positive to the work of Commander of the Revolution Guillermo Garcia Frias, who has been touring the country's ports, meeting with workers and leaders and examining the problems in each place.

Commander of the Revolution Guillermo Garcia Frias, member of the PCC Politburo and minister of transportation, has termed positive the results attained so far this year by Granma Province in the port-transportation-domestic economy network. Accompanied by Roberto Damian Alfonso, first party secretary in Granma, Garcia Frias toured the port and transportation installations in the area. He called for making good use of the country's railroad service and added that as long as there is an empty box or flatcar, it must be used immediately with any type of cargo. At the port of Manzanillo, Garcia Frias chatted with the workers and administrative leaders and urged them to continue to work hard to recover rapidly from the setbacks caused by Hurricane Allen.

Earlier in the day, Garcia Frias chaired in Camaguey City a meeting to examine the efforts made by the province's ports. Also present in the meeting were PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Jorge Risquet and Lazaro Vazquez Garcia, first party secretary in Camaguey. Mercedes Duque Estrada, vice president of the people's government provincial assembly, recounted the work accomplished during the first part of August in Camaguey and Ciego de Avila Provinces. Some unfulfillments reported in Nuevitas were examined. In his speech Risquet congratulated the units participating in the port-transportation-domestic economy network in Camaguey for the results achieved in June, when they fulfilled all tasks efficiently.

VENEZUELA, U.S. SAID TO BE OPERATING 'SPY NETWORK'

FL211159 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 21 Aug 80

["Revolutionary Armed Forces and Interior Ministry Combatants Political Information" program commentary]

[Text] The current Venezuelan Government headed by Luis Herrera Campins continued to move toward absolute collusion with imperialism in plans prepared by the White House against the Latin American peoples. It need not be stressed that this administration joined in the plot to make it easy for Cuban antisocial individuals to break into its embassy, as did Peru's, in an attempt to denigrate and campaign against the Cuban revolution.

But that was not an isolated case. In recent times, the Venezuelan Government has systematically made the participation of its armed forces more frequent in war maneuvers and exercises in the Caribbean area in conjunction with the United States. These maneuvers and exercises have been condemned in the region because of their aggressive and provocative designs.

In recent weeks, charges have been repeatedly made about the Yankee plan to form an inter-American force for a probable military intervention in El Salvador. Venezuela is among the plotters. Now, it has just been revealed that this South American country, in cooperation with the U.S. CIA, has created an espionage network based in El Salvador covering several Central American countries. The operation is called "Centaur". In fact, this operation began with an intelligence and counterintelligence course that CIA experts taught to 24 Venezuelan agents. They were instructed in espionage activities. According to the charges, these spies operate in El Salvador, Costa Rica, Grenada and Jamaica. In some cases they pass themselves off as diplomats.

Venezuela was accused some days ago by Panama's MATUTINO newspaper of being the direct cosponsor of the crimes the Salvadoran Christian Democratic-military junta commits against the Salvadoran people because it supports the junta not only with spies but also with arms, credits and advisers who instruct and lead the fascist hordes that daily massacre the Salvadoran people. It is evident that Washington is trying to wash its hands before the world of its responsibility for the crimes committed in El Salvador and is using Venezuela for this purpose. Venezuela is revealing itself as an active ally in such an enterprise.

While Herrera Campins and his aides spend their time in this anti-Latin American endeavor, what is going on in Venezuela itself? In June political prisoners went on a hunger strike to protest the repression unleashed against popular sectors and declare solidarity with the relatives of prisoners missing at the hands of police forces.

In July, the committee in support of Venezuelan political prisoners charged that they were subjected to torture, brutal beatings and electrical burns on feet and hands and their most sensitive parts. But there is more: Some days ago, the National Guard prevented peasants in the west-central region of the country from marching in protest because the government has not paid them money it owes amounting to nearly $163 million.

Venezuela is oil-rich. It is one of the world's largest exporters. Nevertheless, the people are hungry and needy. It was reported that last year 20 percent of the poorest segment of the population shared in only 3 percent of the national income, whereas the richest 5 percent had 26.5 percent of the country's income.

Even members of parliament have declared that social insecurity is one of the already dramatic and alarming problems in Venezuela. The government is accused of the mass dismissal of workers, for an increase in the prices of basic articles, such as foodstuffs. The cost of living in January-July 1980 rose 25 percent over that of 1979. In recent days, the textile industry was paralyzed by a strike of its 25,000 workers, who demand wage and work improvements and a new labor agreement. Meanwhile public health is said to be experiencing the worst crisis in the history of Venezuela.

This is the reality of a country that has enormous natural resources but with a government which, instead of facing and solving these pressing problems, centers its activity on helping imperialism to prevent the liberation of the peoples of our America.

CHILE

ISRAEL EMBASSY TO BE MOVED TO TEL AVIV

PY211851 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Excerpt] The Foreign Relations Ministry this morning issued a brief communique stating that the Chilean Embassy in Israel will be transferred from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv.

The communique states that the Chilean Government has decided that its embassy in Israel will be established in Tel Aviv, where most of the diplomatic missions accredited in that country are presently located. It should be recalled that the Chilean Embassy, which had been based in Tel Aviv since 1952, was transferred to western Jerusalem in 1965. The communique points out that this change will in no way affect the cordial relations between Chile and Israel.

The decision of the Chilean Government is based on the 31 July resolution of the Jewish parliament, which named the holy city the eternal and indivisible capital of the Hebrew state.

FREI CALLS FOR TRANSITION GOVERNMENT, ASSEMBLY

PY211234 Paris AFP in Spanish 0328 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 20 Aug (AFP)--The Chilean Christian Democratic leader Eduardo Frei today called in this capital for the immediate installation of a transition government and a constituent assembly.

"We want a democracy; we want a constituent assembly; we want an immediate installation of a transition government," Frei said during a meeting with a group of young professionals. Frei pointed out that the plebiscite of the military government offers no options for the 11 million Chileans in case the proposed constitution is rejected. "We should have the right to submit the option of those who do not share the position of the government," Frei said. "President Pinochet stated last week that the choice would be to approve the new constitution or go back to 10 September 1973, the day before Allende was overthrown. "What is this about going back to 10 September? Are we going to resurrect the dead and find the missing ones?" Frei asked. "Seven years have gone by and everything done in this country has been worthless because in one single day we can go back 7 years," the former Chilean president concluded.

PARAGUAY

NICARAGUAN DIPLOMATS LEAVE AT GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST

PY211951 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2026 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Text] Asuncion, 21 Aug (TELAM-LATIN)--Nicaraguan diplomats Alberto Nunez Rodriguez and Nidia Escobar left the country today at the request of the Paraguayan Government. The Nicaraguan diplomats were given 24 hours to leave the country yesterday and they did so at 1430 today on a Paraguayan airlines flight to Buenos Aires.

URUGUAY

GOVERNMENT ISSUES DECREE ON NOVEMBER PLEBISCITE

PY211912 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Aug 80

[Decree law issued by Uruguayan President Aparicio Mendez in agreement with the ministers of interior and national defense in Montevideo on 21 August]

[Text] Whereas on 30 November 1980 a plebiscite will be held to ratify the draft of the new constitution which is currently being studied by the Council of State and considering:

1. That the voters must be given the opportunity to express their free will;

2. That the national Electoral Court has requested an urgent decision to be able to take the necessary steps within its scope of action;

3. That it is believed necessary for the citizenry to vote "yes" or "no" with regard to the approval of the draft which will be submitted in the plebiscite, and since a decision in this regard is not provided for by institutional act No 2 and does not fall within the prerogatives of the national Electoral Court;

The president of the nation decrees:

Article 1. During the plebiscite scheduled for 30 November 1980 in connection with the approval of the draft constitution, the votes cast will indicate either "yes" or "no";

Article 2. It is so ordered.

MEXICO

POLICY ON 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE TO BE MAINTAINED

PA191455 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Aug 80

[Text] The Mexican Fisheries Department has announced that Mexico will uphold its policy or absolute sovereignty over the rights that it has in its 200-mile exclusive economic zone for the exploration, exploitation and conservation of its natural marine resources. It also announced that once foreign ships have accepted these regulations, the government will continue to collect fees and [a percentage] of the catch for fishing permits to commercially exploit certain species of (?marine life) in our territorial waters. The fishing department stated that once these ships comply with the requirements established by presidential decree, the causes of the so-called tuna war between Mexico and the United States--as recently described by certain international news agencies--will disappear.